



# NEWSLETTER



**Chittenden/Washington  
County  
USDA Service Center**

**Chittenden/Washington  
County FSA**

802 865-7895 x4  
800 910-2035 x4(VT only)  
802 865-7947 fax  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

**Hours**

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**County Committee**

Richard Parizo LAA-1  
Daniel Pillsbury LAA-2  
Sumner Farr, Jr LAA-3  
Catherine Scribner LAA-4  
Morgan Churchill LAA-5

**Upcoming County  
Committee Meeting Dates**

April 13, 2011  
May 11, 2011

**FSA Staff**

Bradford Parker x103  
Lawrence Parker x102  
Eileen Powers x106  
Pearl Wells x100

**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

Caroline Alves x203  
Heather Dorsey x115  
Tate Jeffrey x119  
Michel Lapointe x118  
Danny Peet x202  
Norman Smith x117  
John Thurgood x204

**Natural Resources  
Conservation District**

Karina Dailey x104  
Justin Kenny x104

**VT Association of  
Conservation Districts**

Mark Marsh x206

## 2011 Conservation Tree Sale

Spring is just around the corner and with it comes Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District's (WNRCD) Annual Conservation Tree Sale. A wide variety of native trees and shrubs are available at very low cost including Balsam Fir, Red Maple, Mulberry, Currant, Blueberry, and Buttonbush. More information can be found on the WNRCD website ([www.wacd.org/winooski](http://www.wacd.org/winooski)). Please note that orders ***must be received by March 25th*** and ***picked up in either Berlin or Williston on April 30***. There are limited quantities of some species and it is first come, first serve so folks should order early.

This is WNRCD's 28<sup>th</sup> year offering trees and shrubs in Chittenden and Washington Counties and three towns in Orange County. WNRCD continues to offer this sale as a way to promote the planting of native species. It's also one of the ways in which they raise money to support conservation efforts throughout the watershed.



## Emergency Conservation Program Sign-up Extended for Chittenden County

The Chittenden/Washington County FSA Committee has **extended** the sign-up period for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). Applications will now be accepted until close of business, **April 6, 2011**. ECP is designed to help producers in **Chittenden County** recover from damage caused by the December 1, 2010 wind storm. Funds are available to help with the costs associated with: debris clean-up in maple sugar orchards, pastures, and cropland; repair of damaged livestock fences; and repairs or replacement of maple sap taps and tubing. Under the ECP, participants are generally reimbursed up to 75% of the costs, not to exceed an amount determined by the local FSA County Committee, to repair or restore damaged property to pre-disaster condition. Participants must have sustained a minimum of \$1,000 of eligible damages to qualify and an on-site inspection by an FSA employee must be performed.

Generally, applicants must wait to begin restoration work until they have filed an ECP application; however, there are waiver provisions available for those who have already started, or even finished, cleanup and have not filed an application. Participants must document expenses, labor, and equipment use to be eligible for reimbursement. Other program provisions apply.

Chittenden/Washington County FSA Office  
1193 S Brownell Rd STE 35  
Williston, VT 05495-7416  
*Return Service Requested*



PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Mailed from Zip Code 05495  
PERMIT #40

### Livestock Programs Available

FSA administers several programs that may be available to assist livestock producers who are dealing with problems caused by the winter weather. Producers need to document the number and kind of livestock that have died as a direct result of these winter storms. There may also be situations where producers are transporting feed to their livestock. Producers should document these additional costs.

Among the key programs are the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP). For livestock death losses to be eligible under LIP, producers must file a notice of loss with their local FSA office within 30 calendar days from when the loss is apparent to the producer.

Contact your local FSA office for additional information.

### Selected Interest Rates for March 2011

90-Day Treasury Bill	1.25%
Farm Operating - Direct	2.25%
Farm Ownership - Direct	4.75%
Limited Resource	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Emergency	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility 7 year	2.750%
Farm Storage Facility – 10 year	3.375%
Farm Storage Facility – 12 year	3.625%

### Dates to Remember

March 18	Grassland Reserve Enrollment Ends
April 13	COC meeting – 10 a.m.
May 11	COC meeting – 10 a.m.
April 15	CRP General Signup Ends
May 30	Memorial Day – Office Closed
June 1	2011 DCP/ACRE Signup Ends
July 15	Crop Acreage Reports Due 2010 Harvested Production Due
Ongoing	FSFL, MILC